Province of the Massachusetts-Bay ſs.

By the HONORABLE,
THE

Lieutenant Governour,

and Commander in Chief.

A Proclamation.

For Preventing and Puniſhing Immorality and Prophaneneſs.

WHEREAS His Sacred Majeſty in and by His Royal Proclamation of the Twenty fourth of February laſt, hath publiſhed His moſt pious Reſolution to diſcountenance and puniſh all Vice, Immorality and Prophaneneſs, and to encourage and reward Virtue in all perſons, from the higheſt to the loweſt degree; Thereby ſetting a moſt rare and excellent Example to be viewed and followed by all His Subjects. Therefore being moved thereunto by the Aſſembly, and by, and with the Advice and Conſent of the Council. I do direct and Command, all Judges, Juſtices of Peace, Grand-jurors, Conſtables, Tythiug-men, and all other Officers and Perſons, in their reſpective Capacities, to do all that in them lies to detect diſcover, and bring forth all perſons tranſgreſſing and offending againſt the wholeſome Laws and Statutes made and provided for the Suppreſſing and puniſhing of Exceſſive Drinking, Blaſphemy, prophane Swearing and Curſing, Lewdneſs, prophanation of the Lords Day, and other diſſolute Immoral and diſorderly practices; and to take effectual care, that the Laws made againſt ſuch, be Vigorouſly put in Execution; as they tender the Honour of Almighty GOD, and the welfare, proſperity & quiet of themſelves and their Neighbourhood: And that by the piety and virtue of their own Lives & Converſations, they do ſet good Examples, to incite others to a deſirable Imitation thereof. Ordering that this Proclamation be Read in all Courts of Juſtice within this Province, at the opening thereof, immediately before the charge be given to the Grand-jury.

Given under my Hand at *Boſton*, the 16th. Day of *June*, 1698.
In the Tenth Year of His Majeſties Reign.

William Stoughton.

GOD Save the King.

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